

Health Care Resources

	County	Region	State
Persons per Primary Care Physician	1,803	1,776	1,053
Persons per Nurse Practitioner	13,507	7,429	7,134
Persons per Physician Assistant	5,403	15,053	18,664
Persons per Registered Nurse	148	178	106
Females 10-44 per OB/GYN	(1)	4,509	2,100
Persons per Dentist	5,403	2,414	1,853
Persons per Staffed Hospital Bed	450	491	245
Percent occupancy in community hospitals	69.0	57.3	57.7
Person per Staffed Nursing Home Bed	94	119	135
Percent occupancy in community nursing homes	97..9	96.4	93.6
Physician shortage area for OB	NO		
Physician shortage area for Primary Care	YES		

Note: Manpower data are 1996; shortage areas, 1995, facilities, 1994.

(1)-No OB/GYN physician in county

Hospital

Claiborne County Hospital—85 beds

Nursing Homes

Claiborne County Nursing Home, Tazewell—50 beds

Laurel Manor Health Care, New Tazewell—134 beds

Tri State Comprehensive Care Center, Harrogate—116 beds

B. County Process—Overview

The Assessment Process

The Tennessee Department of Health has made a strong commitment to strengthening the performance of the public health system in performing those population-based functions that support the overall health of Tennessee's assessment, assurance and policy development.

Community Diagnosis is a public-private partnership to define the county's priority health problems and to develop strategies for solving these problems. The Claiborne County Health Council in collaboration with the East Tennessee Regional Health Office conducted an extensive assessment of the status of health in Claiborne County. The health council contains community representatives from various geographic locations, social-economic levels, and ethnic groups. An extensive amount of both primary and secondary data were collected and reviewed as the first step in the process. Major issues of concern identified by the community were perception and knowledge of health problems, which were important factors in analyzing the data.

Council members identified major issues of concern and each issue was then ranked according to size, seriousness, and effectiveness of interventions. The top five priorities for Claiborne County are:

- 1. ALCOHOL USE – TOBACCO USE***
- 2. HEART DISEASE – RESPIRATORY DISEASE⁺**
- 3. CANCER**
- 4. SPECIALIZED CARE**
- 5. DENTAL CARE**

**TIED FOR #1*

+TIED FOR #2

Resources

A focus will be placed on identifying existing resources. Cooperation of various agencies could allow redirection of such resources to target identified priorities. Additional resources will be sought for the development of intervention and implementation strategies identified by the health council.